

68. (Twice Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 67 in which said thread has a thread height measured from said body which is greatest at at least one of said truncated sides.

70. (Twice Amended) The implant of claim 69 in which the outer locus of said thread forms a substantially cylindrical configuration.

93. (Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 49 in which said thread has a thread height measured from said body which is greatest at said truncated side.

94. (Thrice Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 25 in which said implant has an upper and lower portion for engaging the bone of the adjacent vertebral bodies, said upper and lower portions comprising a plurality of macroscopic openings.

95. (Thrice Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 49 in which said implant has an upper and lower portion for engaging the bone of the adjacent vertebral bodies, said upper and lower portions comprising a plurality of macroscopic openings.

96. (Thrice Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 69 in which said implant has an upper and lower portion for engaging the bone of the adjacent vertebral bodies, said upper and lower portions comprising a plurality of macroscopic openings.

124. (Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 108 in which said implant is made of a material that is stronger than bone.

125. (Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 1 in which said implant is made of a material that is stronger than bone.

126. (Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 25 in which said implant is made of a material that is stronger than bone.

127. (Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 49 in which said implant is made of a material that is stronger than bone.

128. (Amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 69 in which said implant is made of a material that is stronger than bone.

Please add new claims 148-152 as follows:

--148. The spinal fusion implant of claim 119 in which said body has a second truncated side forming a planar surface parallel to said central axis and opposite to said one truncated side.

149. The spinal fusion implant of claim 108 in which said body has a plurality of openings passing therethrough so as to allow bone to grow from adjacent vertebral body to adjacent vertebral body and through said implant.

150. The spinal fusion implant of claim 1 in which said thread has a thread radius measured from the longitudinal central axis of said implant, said thread radius being substantially uniform throughout at least a portion of said implant.

151. The spinal fusion implant of claim 25 in which said body has a substantially frusto-conical configuration.

152. The spinal fusion implant of claim 25 in which said body has at least in part a cylindrical configuration.

153. The spinal fusion implant of claim 1, further in combination with a fusion promoting substance.

154. The spinal fusion implant of claim 153, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone morphogenetic protein.

155. The spinal fusion implant of claim 153, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite.

156. The spinal fusion implant of claim 153, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite tricalcium phosphate.

157. The spinal fusion implant of claim 153, wherein said fusion promoting substance is genes coding for the production of bone.

158. The spinal fusion implant of claim 153, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone.

159. The spinal fusion implant of claim 25, further in combination with a fusion promoting substance.

160. The spinal fusion implant of claim 159, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone morphogenetic protein.

161. The spinal fusion implant of claim 159, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite.

162. The spinal fusion implant of claim 159, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite tricalcium phosphate.

163. The spinal fusion implant of claim 159, wherein said fusion promoting substance is genes coding for the production of bone.

164. The spinal fusion implant of claim 159, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone.

165. The spinal fusion implant of claim 49, further in combination with a fusion promoting substance.

166. The spinal fusion implant of claim 165, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone morphogenetic protein.

167. The spinal fusion implant of claim 165, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite.

168. The spinal fusion implant of claim 165, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite tricalcium phosphate.

169. The spinal fusion implant of claim 165, wherein said fusion promoting substance is genes coding for the production of bone.

170. The spinal fusion implant of claim 165, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone.

171. The spinal fusion implant of claim 69, further in combination with a fusion promoting substance.

172. The spinal fusion implant of claim 171, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone morphogenetic protein.

173. The spinal fusion implant of claim 171, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite.

174. The spinal fusion implant of claim 171, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite tricalcium phosphate.

175. The spinal fusion implant of claim 171, wherein said fusion promoting substance is genes coding for the production of bone.

176. The spinal fusion implant of claim 171, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone.